

CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Briesen Airfield

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

25X1

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 31 August 1954

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

25X1

REMARKS This is UNEVALUATED

25X1

1. The following air activity and aircraft were observed at Briesen airfield between 7 and 28 July 1954:

7 July. At 0900, 4 Il-28s or U-Il-28s took off at distances of 2,000 meters, made two local flights in elements of two and subsequently disappeared toward the west. These aircraft were not observed returning on this day or the following day.

9 July. About 1300, 4 Il-28s or U-Il-28s landed at intervals of about 10 minutes.

13 July. About 0900, 6 Il-28s or U-Il-28s took off individually and disappeared from view toward the west. About 1100, the aircraft landed individually. The weather was overcast at an altitude of about 200 meters and there was heavy rain.

15 July. Between 0830 and 1500, individual aircraft made flights of 5 to 8 minutes duration. For one hour, 2 jet bombers, in line abreast formation, made local flights over the field. There was a ceiling at an altitude of about 300 meters and there were frequently heavy rain showers.

16 July. There was no flying during the daytime. From 2045 until after midnight, there was night flying. At intervals of about 2 minutes, a jet bomber would take off for a local flight. When landing, the aircraft switched on its landing light and directed the beam in various directions. After touching ground, this searchlight was switched off. The runway was marked by white lights; the western and eastern ends of it were marked by some green and red lights respectively. Every day except for 8 July, 30 Il-28s or U-Il-28s were parked in groups of 10 on the southern taxiway. On 8 July, only 26 aircraft were seen.

22 July. Between noon and 1800, there was intensive air activity and did not stop during rain showers. Individual local flights and flights of up to 45 minutes duration were made in the air space west of the field. During air activity, one Il-28 continuously circled over the field.

25X1

23 July. There was no flying during daytime. The weather was 7/10 overcast with intermittent rain showers. At 2030, night flying started. The aircraft repeatedly took off at distances of 800 to 1,000 meters.

24 July. No flying was observed. About 1800, 29 Il-28s or U-Il-28s were parked at the southern taxiway.

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

SECRET

-2-

25X1

27 July. Between 0700 and 1500, there was intensive air activity. The weather was overcast at an altitude of about 600 meters with intermittent rain showers and visibility of about 5 km. On the average the flights lasted 25 minutes. About 6 jet fighters were continuously aloft at the same time. Two jet bombers flying in formation continuously circled the field for about one hour. About 1800, 30 jet bombers were parked at the dispersal areas.

28 July. During daytime, no air activity was observed. There was a 6/10 overcast. There was night flying after 2030. The aircraft with their position lights lit flew individually toward the west. ¹

2. During the first half of July, about 90 soldiers arrived at the field from the USSR. [REDACTED]

25X1

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. A bomber regiment equipped with 30 Il-28s is stationed at Briesen airfield. Air activity observed indicates an advanced status of training. [REDACTED]

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25X1

2. [REDACTED] Comment. Same source previously reported that, according to talks heard among the ground personnel, officers of the unit had come from Kasan. The correctness of this information and the information in the present report cannot as yet be evaluated.

25X1

3. [REDACTED]

25X1

NODEX

25X1

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